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FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

TO: GENERAL SCOWCROFT - VAIL

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 23, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT

FROM: The Situation Room

SUBJECT: Morning News Summary

The Washington Post:

David Ottaway reports from Lusaka that a Rhodesian black nationalist spokesman charged this weekend that Chinese military instructors were involved in a military training camp incident in Tanzania last June that led to the death or disappearance of nearly 50 guerrilla recruits. The incident apparently stemmed from the continuing rivalry between two factions of the African National Council of Zimbabwe (Rhodesia), one of which is supported by China and the other by the Soviet Union. (A-1)

Murray Marder writes that North Korea, in a message given U.S. officials, has described as "regretful" the tree-pruning fight last week that took the lives of two U.S. army officers and led to a major show of American force in the region. But the State Department yesterday said it considered the North Korean message unacceptable on the grounds that it lacked "acknowledgement of responsibility for the brutal and premeditated murder of two UN Command officers." (A-1)

Jim Hoagland reports that the attention of France is riveted this week on Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, former dishwasher for Howard Johnson's who reached the pinnacle of political power in Paris and now is widely expected to be about to jump or be pushed off. While intense speculation eddied through the capital and weekend newspapers reported his resignation as a virtual fait accompli, Chirac put in a characteristic long weekend of work at his office and kept his plans to himself. (A-1)

Bill McAllister reports that South Korean officials have been offering U.S. Congressmen honorary doctorates from Korean universities and expense-paid trips to Korea to pick up the degrees in an effort to win support for their controversial government. At least 11 members of Congress have honorary degrees conferred by Korean schools, and one congressman, Representative John Murphy, known as a strong supporter of the Pak government, has

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two honorary doctorates. Seven of the congressmen received their degrees in a mass ceremony in Korea last October, but U.S. taxpayers -- not the South Korean government -- paid the bill for their trip, according to one of the congressmen. (A-1)

UPI reports that militant pro- and anti-Castro Cuban groups in the Miami area are engaged in terrorist activities in the U.S. and abroad, according to closed-door testimony before a Senate subcommittee released yesterday. (A3)

UPI reports that Jimmy Carter pledged yesterday to never become militarily involved in another country's affairs unless the U.S. was directly threatened. In one of his most explicit foreign affairs statements yet, the Democratic presidential candidate said if elected he would be "much tougher" than Presidents Ford or Nixon in negotiating with the Soviet Union and that there would be "substantial differences" between his own foreign policy and theirs. (A-9)

Miguel Acoca reports that Soviet officials based in Spain have stepped up overt contacts with opposition political leaders, including members of the outlawed Communist Party, according to Western diplomatic sources. The Soviet attempt to gain influence and acceptance openly on the fluid Spanish political scene is one more sign of the studied relaxation of restrictions since King Juan Carlos succeeded the late Generalissimo Francisco Franco eight months ago. (A-16)

Douglas Watson writes from Beirut that two American diplomats have arrived in Jounieh, in rightist-controlled Lebanon, for consultations with rightist leaders. An American embassy spokesman stressed yesterday that the diplomats' visit "absolutely is not an idea to establish a branch office of the U.S. embassy" in rightist territory or to encourage the partition of Lebanon, U.S. policy flatly opposes partition." (A-20)

David Watt writes of Britain's growing race problem. Angry brawls between blacks and whites in Blackburn, colored women stoned in Wandsworth and Bradford, shops owned by Pakistanis smashed in East Ham, and an Indian student knifed to death in suburban Southall. These recent incidents are symptomatic of the ugliest outbreak of racial tension that British cities have experienced in 20 years. But future eruptions could be uglier. For the troubles this summer were sparked almost entirely by

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whites. The next time they are likely to be triggered by Britain's two million colored inhabitants, whose reaction may be fiercer. (A-23)

Anderson and Whitten write that a reported plot to assassinate Secretary Kissinger in Costa Rica six months ago was blocked by U.S. and Costa Rican authorities four days before it was to have been carried out. They have pieced together the story from secret testimony before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee and from interviews with Cuban exiles and U.S. intelligence sources. A Cuban terrorist named Orlando Bosch Avila was reported to be gunning for Kissinger. The attempt on Kissinger's life was expected, according to reports, during his visit to Costa Rica in February. (C-23)

The New York Times

Bernard Gwertzman reports that President Kim Il Sung has termed as "regretful" the incident that led to the slaying by North Korean guards of two American military officers last week. He said both sides should take steps to insure that such incidents did not recur. In making public Marshal Kim's brief statement, the State Department said it was unacceptable, because North Korea had not admitted responsibility for the deaths of the two Americans. (1)

Henry Kamm writes that the foiling of a military plot against Burmese President Ne Win, bomb-throwing incidents in Rangoon, and the arrest of a group of alleged communist opponents are recent outward signs of mounting pressures on the former general's 14-year-old military regime. But many observers, Burmese and diplomatic, attach as much or greater significance to an unannounced Burmese effort to find a way out of the country's economic quagmire through an international rescue consortium under World Bank auspices. (1)

According to Henry Giniger "the forces of order," the police, and the Civil Guard seem to many opposition political groups to be out of step with the transition of the country toward greater freedom and more liberal criteria of what is or is not subversive. (2)

John Burns reports that pamphlets circulating in black townships throughout South Africa have urged workers to begin a three-day strike today in support of anti-government demonstrations that have swept the townships for the last two months. (3)

John Crewdson writes that Justice Department prosecutors have seen no evidence that the search for fugitive members of the Weather Underground organization was motivated by the group's purported links to hostile foreign governments, sources close to the department's investigation of the bureau said yesterday. (5)

According to Malcolm Browne the heightened tension in the Korean demilitarized zone that followed the ax slayings of two American military officers is not expected to help the human rights situation in South Korea. (7)

The lead Times editorial states that the measured allied response to the Korean's killing of two U.S. officers in the DMZ drives home the essential message that the U.S. will not be bullied or otherwise driven from fulfilling its role as guardian of the 23-year Korean armistice; and it did so without additional loss of life and without unnecessarily exasperating an already tense situation. Pyongyang's latest brute display of unpredictable aggressiveness underscores the continuing need for a strong and patient U.S. presence, preferably under UN auspices, until North Korea's leaders abandon their persistent dream of military conquest and sit down to negotiate a final peace settlement. (22)

The following Times editorial comments that after 25 years, NATO still has not been able to standardize its military equipment. It is against this background that the Congress and the country should evaluate the campaign just opened by the U.S. army, its arms suppliers and their allies on Capitol Hill against the new effort by Defense Secretary Rumsfeld and West German Defense Minister Leber to standardize the key components that will dominate logistical support for the main battle tanks the two countries are developing for the 1980's. (22)

Another Times editorial states that despite the pledges of American energy independence by 1980 or 1985 which resounded from the Nixon White House less than three years ago, there seems little public awareness that the U.S. is more dependent than ever on Middle East crude oil -- and therefore more vulnerable to Middle East oil embargo threats. The situation is likely to get worse as the current business recovery continues. (22)

Jean Lacouture gives his impression of Vietnam from his 11th trip to the country since 1945. (23)

The Baltimore Sun

Gilbert Lewthwaite reports that Senator Robert Dole yesterday presented himself as a bridge between moderate and conservative party members and predicted Jimmy Carter's lead in the public opinion polls would soon be cut in half. (A-1)

Arnold Isaacs notes that when Indira Gandhi clamped authoritarian rule on India, she also promised her emergency powers would be used to speed economic growth and redeem her long unfulfilled pledge to eradicate her nation's vast poverty. Now the Indian economy presents a series of paradoxes. (A-1)

Joseph Sterne comments that if 1964 was the year when the eastern establishment was defeated at a Republican convention, 1976 was the year when it was reduced almost to an irrelevancy. Only on the rarest of occasions were the conservative delegates in Kansas City reminded that the party's once-dominant wing was in attendance. (A-10)

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 JOINT EMBASSY/UNC MESSAGE
 DEPARTMENT ALSO PASS SECDEF
 E.O. 11652: GDS
 TAGS: PFOR, MARR, KS, KN, US

SUBJECT: ROKS PROBE U.S. REACTION TO NORTH KOREAN MESSAGE

1. DEFENSE MINISTER SUN CHONG-CHJOL AND FOREIGN MINISTER TONG-JIN PARK HAD SEPARATE MEETINGS WITH CINCPAC AND AMBASSADOR RESPECTIVELY AUGUST 22 TO DISCUSS KIM IL SUNG'S MESSAGE DELIVERED AT AUGUST 21 MEETING BETWEEN NORTH KOREAN AND U.S. SENIOR MAC REPRESENTATIVES.

2. ACTING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRESIDENT PARK, ATA JUST COMPLETED NSC MEETING, BOTH MINISTERS ESSENTIALLY CHARACTERIZED NORTH'S REPLY AS NOT ACCEPTABLE, THOUGHT IT SHOULD BE REFUTED, AND URGED THAT WE KEEP PRESSURE ON NORTH KOREA UNTIL SATISFACTORY RESPONSE OBTAINED.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER PARK NOTED TO AMBASSADOR THAT NORTH KOREAN RESPONSE HAD NOT EXPRESSED CLEAR REGRET AND HAD PUT BOTH SIDES' "EFFORTS" TO MAINTAIN SECURITY ON EQUAL FOOTING, RATHER THAN ACCEPTING SOLE RESPONSIBILITY. FOREIGN MINISTER PARK THOUGHT NORTH KOREAN RESPONSE OFFERED NO ENCOURAGEMENT BUT WAS SIMPLY CAREFULLY WORDED STATEMENT OF USUAL POSITION DESIGNED TO DEFEND NORTH KOREAN CONTENTION THEY NEVER PROVOKED PROBLEMS IN FIRST INSTANCE. AT SAME TIME HE RECOGNIZED NORTH KOREAN MESSAGE WAS MUCH MORE CONCILIATORY IN TONE THAN IN PAST. PARK, INCIDENTALLY, DID NOT REFER TO AUGUST 17 MEETING OF MAC SECRETARIES MEETING.

4. MINISTER SUN EMPHASIZED TO CINCPAC THAT SUPREME COMMANDER'S AUGUST 21 MESSAGE TO CINCPAC'S EARLIER MESSAGE WAS, IN ROK VIEW, INADEQUATE SINCE IT IMPLIED US INSTIGATION DENIED CULPABILITY AND GAVE INADEQUATE ASSURANCES ABOUT FUTURE ACTIONS. HE NOTED THE MESSAGE MUST BE READ IN CONTEXT WITH DPRK'S PUBLIC STATEMENT MADE AUGUST 22 (SEE FBIS) THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S DEMANDS WERE MERELY PRETEXT FOR IGNITING ANOTHER WAR. MINISTER SUN ALLUDED TO PUEBLO INCIDENT WHEN U.S. HAD BEEN FORCED TO BACK DOWN TO ACHIEVE THE RELEASE OF THE CREW. (THE INFO THIS TIME).

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/05/02 : LOC-HAK-267-4-23-6

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5. BOTH CINCPAC AND AMBASSADOR QUESTIONED RESPECTIVE MINISTERS CAREFULLY AS TO EXACTLY WHAT THEY PRESCRIBED. REPLIES INDICATE ROKS WISH TO KEEP PRESSURE ON NORTH, WITHOUT BEING TOO SPECIFIC. THEY WANT US TO CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR A FORMAL APOLOGY AND EXTRACT PROMISE THAT SUCH INCIDENTS AS HAVE OCCURRED WILL NOT BE REPEATED. NEITHER TOOK SPECIFIC NOTE OF TREE CUTTING AS MEASURE OF PRESSURE. ROKS ALSO WISH US TO KEEP AUGMENTATION FORCES IN KOREA UNTIL THESE OBJECTIVES ACHIEVED. MINISTER SUH NOTED THAT IT WAS OF LITTLE USE TO DEPLOY FORCES AND THEN RETURN THEM PRIOR TO ACHIEVING THE "POLITICAL" ENDS THAT THEY WERE INITIALLY DISPATCHED TO ACCOMPLISH. HE ADDED THAT WE SHOULD IN LIGHT OF PRESIDENT FORD'S, SECRETARY KISSINGER, AND CINCPAC DEMANDS CONTINUE TO PRESS NORTH TO MAKE AN APOLOGY, PROVIDE REPARATIONS, PUNISH OFFICERS RESPONSIBLE FOR AUGUST 18 KILLING AND GIVE ASSURANCE OF NON RECURRENCE, (SEE CINCPAC 190720Z AUG 76 FOR SIMILAR STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT PARK.) CJCS RHO NOTED THAT ROK SENTIMENT NOW RUNNING HIGH AGAINST BARBARIC MURDER OF U.S. OFFICERS. MINISTER SUH ALLUDED TO THE ROK PEOPLE WONDERING ABOUT DPRK REPLY AND WHY ROKS NOT PRESENT AT AUGUST 21 MEETING. SUH PROPOSED THAT CONTENTS OF NORTHERN REPLY BE MADE PUBLIC AND SIMULTANEOUSLY BE DECLARED UNACCEPTABLE. (COMMENT: PUBLIC SENTIMENT IN ROK IS AT LEAST IN PART ENGENDERED BY ROK PRESS GUIDANCE.)

6. BOTH MINISTERS EMPHASIZED THAT ROKS DID NOT WISH US TO TAKE MILITARY ACTIONS, BUT STRESSED THAT FURTHER ACTIONS SHOULD BE DIPLOMATIC.

7. FOREIGN MINISTER PARK AGREED THAT ROKS WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION WERE WE, IF WE SO DECIDED, TO PURSUE WITH NORTH KOREANS MEANING OF THEIR PROPOSAL AT AUGUST 21 MEETING THAT BOTH SIDES SHOULD MAKE EFFORTS "SO THAT SUCH INCIDENTS MAY NOT OCCUR IN THE FUTURE." BEYOND THESE RATHER GENERAL PRESCRIPTIONS, ONLY OTHER SUGGESTION MADE BY FOREIGN MINISTER WAS THAT WE CONTINUE TO KEEP PANMUNJOM CLOSED TO TOURISTS FOR TIME BEING TO AVOID GIVING IMPRESSION WE THOUGHT THINGS IN JSA BACK TO NORMAL.

8. MAIN POINTS MINISTERS WISHED TO MAKE WERE THAT ROKS FOUND KIM IL SUNG REPLY UNACCEPTABLE AND INADEQUATE; THAT US SHOULD CONTINUE TO PRESS NORTH KOREA FOR APOLOGY, PUNISHMENT OF OFFENDERS AND ASSURANCES OF NON-RECURRENCE; AND THAT FAILURE TO PRESS FOR THESE CONCESSIONS (RECOGNIZING THAT THEY WERE UNLIKELY TO BE ATTAINED) WOULD IN THEIR VIEW DISAPPOINT ROK PUBLIC DEEPLY. BOTH MINISTERS WERE NOT EXPLICIT ON FURTHER U.S. ACTIONS, EXCEPT TO SEEK REGRETS AND FUTURE ASSURANCES. WHILE THEY DID NOT SAY SO SPECIFICALLY, OBVIOUS THAT MINISTERS WERE ALSO EXPRESSING DEEP ROK NERVOUSNESS ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF US GETTING INVOLVED IN BILATERAL NEGOTIATION WITH NORTH KOREA.

9. IN CLOSING, FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT PRESIDENT PARK WOULD CALL AMBASSADOR ON SHORTLY TO DISCUSS FUTURE COURSE OF ACTION AND WOULD HOPE AMBASSADOR TO HAVE WASHINGTON REACTION TO EVENTS AND PROPOSALS FOR SATISFACTORY WAY TO

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PROCEED AND TO BRING TO A CLOSE UNHAPPY JSA INCIDENT.
16. OUR COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WILL FOLLOW.

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